

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

---

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A pedal device for a vehicle [having] comprising a pedal member depressed by the driver, and arm member engaged with the pedal member, for turning when the pedal member is depressed, and transmitting driver's force-on-pedal to the brake master cylinder, further comprising:

a footrest [means for restricting] configured to restrict the turning of the arm member when the [driver's] force-on-pedal which acts on pedal member is less than [the fixed value] a predetermined value, and

wherein said pedal member is composed of footplate to be depressed by the driver[,] and a protruding portion engaged with the footplate[,] on which a driver's heel can be put.

Claim 2 (Original) The pedal device for a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein said heel putting part is a protruding portion fixed to the bottom of said footplate.

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) [The] A pedal device for a vehicle [according to claim 1] comprising a pedal member depressed by the driver, and arm member engaged with the pedal member, for turning when the pedal member is

depressed, and transmitting driver's force-on-pedal to the brake master cylinder, further comprising:

a footrest [means for restricting] configured to restrict the turning of the arm member when the [driver's] force-on-pedal which acts on pedal member is less than [the fixed value] a predetermined value, and

wherein said pedal member is composed of footplate to be depressed by the driver[,] and a protruding portion engaged with the footplate[,] on which a driver's heel can be put,

wherein said pedal member is supported rotatably with respect to said arm member, and said arm member has the stopper which restricts the movement of said pedal member.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) [The] A pedal device for a vehicle [according to claim 1] comprising a pedal member depressed by the driver, and arm member engaged with the pedal member, for turning when the pedal member is depressed, and transmitting driver's force-on-pedal to the brake master cylinder, further comprising:

a footrest [means for restricting] configured to restrict the turning of the arm member when the [driver's] force-on-pedal which acts on pedal member is less than [the fixed value] a predetermined value, and

wherein said pedal member is composed of footplate to be depressed by the driver[,] and a protruding portion engaged with the footplate[,] on which a driver's heel can be put, further comprising[:]

a force-on-pedal [detection means] detector arranged in said footplate[, for detecting] configured to detect the driver's force-on-pedal,

a foot load [detection means] detector arranged on said heel putting portion[, for detecting] configured to detect a driver's foot load, and

a footrest force [calculation means for controlling] calculated device configured to control said footrest [means] based on at least one output of said foot load [detection means] detector and said force-on-pedal [detection means] detector.

cont. A1  
Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The pedal device for a vehicle according to claim 5, wherein said footrest force [calculation means calculates] calculator is arranged to calculate the footrest force from the driver's force-on-pedal of the driver detected by said force-on-pedal detection means and foot load detected by said foot load detection means, and adjusts suitable footrest force for an individual driver automatically.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) [The] A pedal device for a vehicle [according to claim 1] comprising a pedal member depressed by the driver, and arm member engaged with the pedal member, for turning when the pedal member is depressed, and transmitting driver's force-on-pedal to the brake master cylinder, further comprising:

a footrest [means for restricting] configured to restrict the turning of the arm member when the [driver's] force-on-pedal which acts on pedal member is less than [the fixed value] a predetermined value, and

wherein said pedal member is composed of footplate to be depressed by the driver[, ] and a protruding portion engaged with the footplate[, ] on which a driver's heel can be put, further comprising;

a buffer means for generating the torque to resist the turning of said arm means when said pedal means is depressed, and

wherein said footrest force calculation means controls said buffer means when releasing the restriction of the turning of said arm member by said footrest means, and adjusts the force-on-pedal applied on said pedal member.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) An automobile using the pedal device for a vehicle [having], compressing a pedal member depressed by the driver, [and] an arm member engaged with the pedal member[,] for turning when the pedal member is depressed[,] and transmitting driver's force-on-pedal to the brake master cylinder, [further comprising] and

a footrest [means for] restricting the turning of the arm member when the driver's force-on-pedal which acts on pedal member is less than [the fixed value] a predetermined value, [and]

wherein said pedal member is [composed of] a footplate [to be depressed] depressible by the driver[,] and having a protruding portion engaged with the footplate, on which driver's heel [can be put] is placeable.

---